

The Detroit Workforce Development Board (WDB), created through an executive order by Michigan's Governor, is the local regent responsible for the planning and oversight of all workforce training and development services funded under the Workforce Development Act (“WIA”) in the City of Detroit. The WDB, under authorization from WIA, established the Youth Council as its vehicle to oversee youth workforce development. The Youth Council primarily composed of private sector members from the Workforce Development Board, created the Youth Advisory Council to implement its mission. The Youth Advisory Council expanded membership to include representation from the educational, governmental, community/faith-based sectors, along with parental and youth representatives. The mission of the Council is to create a comprehensive youth Workforce Development System that will offer life skills, occupational skills training, and employment services to both in-school and out-of-school youth. This includes at-risk youth, youth with disabilities, and youth offenders 365 days a year. The aim is to prepare youth for post secondary educational opportunities, provide a strong linkage between academics and occupational learning, prepare youth for unsubsidized employment opportunities, and establish effective connections to intermediary job markets with local and regional employers.

Detroit Youth Council Governance Structure

